

Remarks

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,214,709 to Orr.

A. Orr Does Not Anticipate Claim 1

Orr does not anticipate claim 1 of the present application. In particular, claim 1 does not disclose the existence of one or more strands of wire that remain unbent for setting the strength of the wire rope socket. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1336 (Fed. Cir 1989). Here, Orr does not disclose one or more strands of wire that remain in an unbent condition for setting the strength of the wire rope socket.

The Examiner has identified strand a² of Orr as being a strand of wire that is not bent 180 degrees. Claim 1 has been amended herein to clarify that the wire rope and socket combination must contain at least one strand that remains in an unbent condition for setting the strength of the wire rope socket. This element of claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested in Orr. Rather, each strand in Orr, including strand a² is bent. Strand a² is shown in Figures 1 and 4 of Orr. In Figure 1, strand a² is bent. Likewise, the bending of strand a² can be easily seen in Figure 4, where strand a² extends through and bends over a bore 20. As such, Orr does not disclose a wire rope and socket combination in which at least one strand remains unbent for setting the strength of the wire rope socket.

Claim 2 will not be discussed individually herein, as claim 2 depends from claim 1 and is allowable as a result.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1 and 2 of the present invention are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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